

Vermont: FirstNet Timeline

2012

February 22. The Middle Class Tax Relief & Job Creation Act is signed into law. It creates the First Responder Network Authority. (FirstNet) The law gives FirstNet the mission to build, operate & maintain the first high-speed nationwide wireless broadband network dedicated to public safety. Network uses 20 MHz of D-block 700 MHz spectrum (Band Class 14). Congress authorizes \$7 billion--\$6.5 specifically for network build-out.

2013

April. An executive order from Governor Peter Shumlin was signed to create the Vermont Public Safety Broadband Network Commission.

March. Vermont is awarded State & Implementation Grant Program (SLIGP) funds to prepare for FirstNet. Funds are for outreach, education and data collection.

2014

National FirstNet organization continues administrative organizational work & holds their first state consultation meeting in Maryland.

2015

June. Vermont assembles small outreach team to assist with data collection required by FirstNet & funded by SLIGP. AppGeo contracted for data collection work. PSBC & DPS also host initial Vermont consultation for public safety community.

September. Vermont & all states transmit data collection results (users, devices, barriers) due to FirstNet--a critical input to the national RFP. Vermont data represented 591 public safety entities representing 18,700 first responders, a 75% survey response rate.

October. FirstNet hosts national SPOC (Single Point of Contact) conference.

2016

January. FirstNet issues national RFP for design & operation of the Nationwide Public Safety Broadband Network (NPSBN).

May 31. National FirstNet RFP closes & the evaluation phase begins.

October. PSBC issues RFP for technical advising & consultation services to evaluate the upcoming state plan from FirstNet & its private partner.

2017

November 21. Rivada Mercury lodges protest of national procurement process and its elimination from competitive range of bid process.

January. PSBC selects winning bidder, Televate, of RFP for technical advising & consultation regarding the **draft** FirstNet state plan for Vermont.

March 17. Federal judge rules against Rivada Mercury protest. FirstNet to proceed with contract award.

March 31-June 30. Anticipated time frame that PSBC will receive **draft** state plan for examination & comment back to FirstNet & its private partner. PSBC will prepare opt-in/opt-out recommendation for Governor Phil Scott.

March 30. AT&T announced as winning bidder of the contract to build the NPSBN. Work begins immediately to draft individual state plans based on the data previously sent to FirstNet by each state.

Governors have 90 days to accept the plan or opt-out. Opt-out states will have 180 days to create an alternate plan. If accepted, states may apply for Radio Access Network construction funds spectrum leasing from the National Telecommunications & Information Administration (NTIA). *

Anticipated fall release. **Final** state plans are transmitted simultaneously to each governor. Plans will detail coverage proposal, deployment schedules, cost of services & other elements.

2018

January 31. SLIGP funding expires. FirstNet begins initial network deployment. Public safety is not required to adopt FirstNet. FirstNet must attract subscribers based on performance and cost.

2022

FirstNet funding ends. By law, NPSBN to be substantially operational nationwide.

* For more details on opt-out timeline, see [Opt-In/Opt-Out Timeline on the PSBC.Vermont.gov web site](https://www.psbct.vermont.gov).